

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 NIC-01 SCCT-01 /067 W

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R 131230Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6264

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: MISHRA ASSASSINATION: WAS US/CIA INVOLVED?

REF: NEW DELHI 374

1. IT TOOK SOMEWHAT LONGER THAN WE MIGHT HAVE ANTICIPATED BUT THE US AND CIA HAVE FINALLY EMERGED AS AN ALLEGED ELEMENT IN THE ASSASSINATION OF L.N. MISHRA. (A) A CONGRESS-R POLITICIAN (PRADESH COMMITTEE VICE-PRESIDENT SAMPATH) IN TAMIL NADU RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF US INVOLVEMENT JANUARY 9 IN MADRAS, CHARGING THE US WAS CONDUCTING ALL KINDS OF "CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS IN INDIA" TO REDUCE INDIA TO THE STATUS OF PAKISTAN, BURMA OR SYRIA (SIC) AND THAT THE US DID NOT WANT INDIAN DEMOCRACY TO SUCCEED. (B) CPI MP KALYANASUNDRAM, SPEAKING IN TRICHINOPOLLY THE SAME DAY, SPECIFICALLY CHARGED CIA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR "MURDERING MISHRA". (C) ANOTHER TAMIL NADU MP, K. MANOHARAN OF THE ADMK, ADDRESSED A MEETING IN MADRAS JANUARY 8 ALSO CHARGING CIA INVOLVEMENT IN MISHRA'S DEATH. (D) CPI CHAIRMAN S.A. DANGE TOLD A CPI BIHAR CONFERENCE JANUARY 10 THAT THE MURDER OF MISHRA WAS PART OF THE US

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"CONSPIRACY TO DESTABILIZE THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN

INDIA HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER GANDHI". (E) THE
JANUARY 11 ISSUE OF BLITZ (BOMBAY) LINKS CIA, THE
ANANDA MARG, AND "DERANGED, FASCIST-MINDED RAILWAY
OFFICERS" AS BEING BEHIND THE MURDER AND DESCRIBES IT AS
POSSIBLY THE "FIRST SHOT OF A MURDER SYNDROME DESIGNED TO
ENGULF THE NATION INTO ANARCHY."

2. COMMENT: THE ACCUSATIONS ALL FOLLOW MRS. GANDHI'S
SPEECH ON MISHRA'S DEATH REPORTED IN REFTEL AND MAKE
SPECIFIC AND PRESUMED INTERPRETATION WE ANTICIPATED THE
MORE RADICAL AND ANTI-US ELEMENTS IN CONGRESS AND
CERTAINLY THE CPI WOULD DRAW FROM HER REMARKS.
WITH DANGE HAVING FORMALLY SOUNDED THE TOCSIN FOR THE CPI,
WE WILL OBVIOUSLY HEAR CONSIDERABLY MORE ON THIS THEME,
PARTICULARLY AT THE ALL-INDIA CPI CONGRESS AT THE END
OF JANUARY.
SCHNEIDER

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